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**RECORDING APPARATUS, RECORDING METHOD,  
REPRODUCING METHOD, REPRODUCING APPARATUS,  
AND REPRODUCING METHOD**

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DESCRIPTION

Recording Apparatus, Recording Method, Reproducing Apparatus, and Reproducing Method

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Technical Field

The present invention relates to a recording apparatus, a recording method, a reproducing apparatus, and a reproducing method that permit or prohibit a decompressing process depending on whether or not fixed value data that has been placed in each segmented block of a compressed digital signal and encrypted can be completely decrypted.

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Related Art

EEPROM (Electrically Erasable Programmable ROM) that is an electrically rewritable memory requires a large space because each bit is composed of two transistors. Thus, the integration of EEPROM is restricted. To solve this problem, a flash memory that allows one bit to be accomplished with one transistor using all-bit-erase system has been developed. The flash memory is being expected as a successor of conventional record mediums such as magnetic disks and optical discs.

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A memory card using a flash memory is also known. The memory card can be freely attached to an

apparatus and detached therefrom. A digital audio recording/reproducing apparatus that uses a memory card instead of a conventional CD (Compact Disc: Trademark) or MD (Mini Disc: Trademark) can be accomplished and a digital audio data that uses the memory card can be recorded and reproduced.

A file management system used for a conventional personal computer is named FAT (File Allocation Table). In the FAT system, when a particular file is defined, predetermined parameters are successively set to the file. Thus, the size of a file becomes variable. One file is composed of at least one management unit (sector, cluster, or the like). Data corresponding to the management unit is written to a table referred to as FAT. In the FAT file system, a file structure can be easily formed regardless of the physical characteristics of a record medium. Thus, the FAT file system can be used for a magneto-optical disc as well as a floppy disk and a hard disk. In the above-mentioned memory card, the FAT file system is used.

In recent years, with respect to digital recording of music data, the rights of copyright owners should be adequately protected. In other words, using technologies of personal computers, digital music data can be easily copied. To prevent digital music data from being illegally copied, a next generation audio

data that is encrypted has been proposed.

When audio data is encrypted, it is randomized. Thus, even if the reproduced output data is abnormal due to a particular cause of the recorder, it is difficult to detect the abnormality of the output data. If the abnormality of the reproduced output data cannot be detected, noise such as click sound hurts the ears of the user. Alternatively, the noise may damage the speakers.

Therefore, an object of the present invention is to provide a recording apparatus, a recording method, a reproducing apparatus, and reproducing method that prevent abnormally reproduced output data from being output even in the case that audio data is encrypted.

#### Disclosure of the Invention

A first aspect of the present invention is a recording apparatus, comprising a compression process means for compressing an input digital signal corresponding to a predetermined compression process and segmenting the compressed digital signal into blocks, a fixed value generating means for generating a predetermined fixed value, an adding means for adding the fixed value generated by the fixed value generating means at a predetermined timing to the blocks of the digital signal compressed by the compression process

means, an encrypting means for encrypting the fixed value and the compressed digital signal added by the adding means, and a recording means for recording the fixed value and the compressed digital signal encrypted by the encrypting means to a record medium.

5 A second aspect of the present invention is a reproducing apparatus for reproducing data of which a digital signal of which a fixed value is added at a predetermined timing to blocks of main data is compressed and encrypted from a record medium, comprising a decrypting means for decrypting the compressed and encrypted digital signal, a separating means for separating the fixed value and the compressed data from the digital signal that are decrypted by the decrypting means, a decompressing means for decompressing the compressed main data separated by the separating means, a memory means for pre-storing a fixed value, a comparing means for comparing the fixed value separated by the separating means with the fixed value stored in the memory means, and a controlling means for permitting and prohibiting the decompressing process of the decompressing means for the main data decompressed by the decompressing means corresponding to the compared result of the comparing means.

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According to the present invention, one block as an erase unit of an attachable/detachable non-volatile memory contains a header and a plurality of

sound units SU. The first one byte of the first sound unit SU of the block is read. The high order six bits of the one byte are compared with a predetermined code (fixed value). When they match, it is determined that the reproduced output is not abnormal. On the other hand, when they do not match, it is determined that the reproduced output data is abnormal. When the determined result represents that the reproduced output data is abnormal, the reproduced sound is muted. On the other hand, when data is reproduced, an alarm is issued. Alternatively, the system is reset so that the user determines whether or not the abnormality of the reproduced output data is solved.

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#### Brief Description of Drawings

Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing the structure of a digital audio recorder/player using a non-volatile memory card according to the present invention; Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing the internal structure of a DSP 30 according to the present invention; Fig. 3 is a block diagram showing the internal structure of a memory card 40 according to the present invention; Fig. 4 is a schematic diagram showing a file management structure of a memory card as a storage medium according to the present invention; Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram showing the physical structure of data in a flash memory 42 of the memory

card 40 according to the present invention; Fig. 6 is a  
data structure of the memory card 40 according to the  
present invention; Fig. 7 is a schematic diagram  
showing the hierarchy of the file structure in the  
memory card 40; Fig. 8 is a schematic diagram showing  
the data structure of a reproduction management file  
PBLIST.MSF that is a sub directory stored in the memory  
card 40; Fig. 9 is a schematic diagram showing the data  
structure in the case that one ATRAC3 data file is  
divided into blocks with a predetermined unit length  
and that attribute files are added thereto; Fig. 10A is  
a schematic diagram showing the file structure before  
two files are edited with a combining process; Fig. 10B  
is a schematic diagram showing the file structure after  
two files are edited with a combining process; Fig. 10C  
is a schematic diagram showing the file structure after  
one file is edited with a dividing process; Fig. 11 is  
a schematic diagram showing the data structure of a  
reproduction management file PBLIST; Fig. 12A is a  
schematic diagram showing the data structure of a  
header portion of the reproduction management file  
PBLIST; Fig. 12B is a schematic diagram showing the  
data structure of a main data portion of the  
reproduction management file PBLIST; Fig. 12C is a  
schematic diagram showing the data structure of an  
additional information data portion of the reproduction  
management file PBLIST; Fig. 13 is a table that

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correlates types of additional information data and code values thereof; Fig. 14 is a table that correlates types of additional information data and code values thereof; Fig. 15 is a table that correlates types of additional information data and code values thereof; Fig. 16A is a schematic diagram showing the data structure of additional information data; Fig. 16B is a schematic diagram showing the data structure in the case that additional information data is an artist name; Fig. 16C is a schematic diagram showing the data structure in the case that additional information data is a copyright code; Fig. 16D is a schematic diagram showing the data structure in the case that additional information data is date/time information; Fig. 16E is a schematic diagram showing the data structure in the case that additional information data is a reproduction log; Fig. 17 is a schematic diagram showing a detailed data structure of an ATRAC3 data file; Fig. 18 is a schematic diagram showing the data structure of an upper portion of an attribute header that composes an ATRAC3 data file; Fig. 19 is a schematic diagram showing the data structure of a middle portion of the attribute header that composes an ATRAC3 data file; Fig. 20 is a table that correlates record modes, record time, and so forth; Fig. 21 is a table showing copy control states; Fig. 22 is a schematic diagram showing the data structure of a lower portion of the attribute

header that composes an ATRAC3 data file; Fig. 23 is a schematic diagram showing the data structure of a header of a data block of an ATRAC3 data file; Figs. 24A to 24C are flow charts showing a recovering method according to the present invention in the case that an FTA area was destroyed; Fig. 25 is a schematic diagram showing the file structure in the memory card 40 according to a second embodiment of the present invention; Fig. 26 is a schematic diagram showing the relation between a track information management file TRKLIST.MSF and an ATRAC3 data file A3Dnnnnn.MSA; Fig. 27 is a schematic diagram showing the detailed data structure of the track information management file TRKLIST.MSF; Fig. 28 is a schematic diagram showing the detailed data structure of NAME1 for managing a name; Fig. 29 is a schematic diagram showing the detailed data structure of NAME2 for managing a name; Fig. 30 is a schematic diagram showing the detailed data structure of an ATRAC3 data file A3Dnnnnn.MSA; Fig. 31 is a schematic diagram showing the detailed data structure of INFLIST.MSF that represents additional information; Fig. 32 is a schematic diagram showing the detailed data structure of INFLIST.MSF that represents additional information data; Fig. 33 is a flow chart showing a recovering method according to the second embodiment of the present invention in the case that an FTA area was destroyed; Fig. 34 is a block diagram

5 showing the structure of a modulating and demodulating unit; Fig. 35 is a schematic diagram showing the data structure of which a fixed value is added at intervals of a sound unit SU; Fig. 36 is a block diagram showing the structure of a decrypting unit; and Fig. 37 is a block diagram showing the structure of a recording and reproducing apparatus.

#### Best Modes for Carrying out the Invention

10 Next, an embodiment of the present invention will be described. Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing the structure of a digital audio recorder/player using a memory card according to an embodiment of the present invention. The digital audio recorder/player records and reproduces a digital audio signal using a detachable memory card. In reality, the recorder/player composes an audio system along with an amplifying unit, a speaker, a CD player, an MD recorder, a tuner, and so forth. However, it should be noted that the present invention can be applied to other audio recorders. In other words, the present invention can be applied to a portable recording/reproducing apparatus. In addition, the present invention can be applied to a set top box that records a digital audio data that is circulated as a satellite data communication, a digital broadcast, or Internet. Moreover, the present invention can be

applied to a system that records/reproduces moving  
picture data and still picture data rather than audio  
data. The system according to the embodiment of the  
present invention can record and reproduce additional  
information such as picture and text other than a  
digital audio signal.

The recording/reproducing apparatus has an  
audio encoder/decoder IC 10, a security IC 20, a DSP  
(Digital Signal Processor) 30. Each of these devices  
is composed of a one-chip IC. The  
recording/reproducing apparatus has a detachable memory  
card 40. The one-chip IC of the memory card 40 has  
flash memory (nonvolatile memory), a memory control  
block, and a security block. The security block has a  
DES (Data Encryption Standard) encrypting circuit.  
According to the embodiment, the recording/reproducing  
apparatus may use a microcomputer instead of the DSP

30.

The audio encoder/decoder IC 10 has an audio  
interface 11 and an encoder/decoder block 12. The  
encoder/decoder block 12 encodes a digital audio data  
corresponding to a highly efficient encoding method and  
writes the encoded data to the memory card 40. In  
addition, the encoder/decoder block 12 decodes encoded  
data that is read from the memory card 40. As the  
highly efficient encoding method, the ATRAC3 format  
that is a modification of the ATRAC (Adaptive Transform

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Acoustic Coding) format used in Mini-Disc is used.  
In the ATRAC3 format, audio data sampled at 44.1 kHz and quantized with 16 bits is highly efficiently encoded. In the ATRAC3 format, the minimum data unit of audio data that is processed is a sound unit (SU). 1 SU is data of which data of 1024 samples ( $1024 \times 16 \text{ bits} \times 2 \text{ channels}$ ) is compressed to data of several hundred bytes. The duration of 1 SU is around 23 msec. In the highly efficient encoding method, the data amount of audio data is compressed to data that is around 10 times smaller than that of original data. As with the ATRAC1 format used in Mini-Disc, the audio signal compressed and decompressed corresponding to the ATRAC3 format less deteriorates in the audio quality.

A line input selector 13 selectively supplies the reproduction output signal of an MD, the output signal of a tuner, or a reproduction output signal of a tape to an A/D converter 14. The A/D converter 14 converts the input line signal to a digital audio signal (sampling frequency = 44.1 kHz; the number of quantizing bits = 16). A digital input selector 16 selectively supplies a digital output signal of an MD, a CD, or a CS (Satellite Digital Broadcast) to a digital input receiver 17. The digital input signal is transmitted through for example an optical cable. An output signal of the digital input receiver 17 is supplied to a sampling rate converter 15. The sampling

rate converter 15 converts the digital input signal into a digital audio signal (sampling frequency = 44.1 kHz; the number of quantizing bits = 16).

5 The encoder/decoder block 12 of the audio encoder/decoder IC 10 supplies encoded data to a DES encrypting circuit 22 through an interface 21 of the security IC 20. The DES encrypting circuit 22 has a FIFO 23. The DES encrypting circuit 22 is disposed so

10 as to protect the copyright of contents. The memory card 40 also has a DES encrypting circuit. The DES

encrypting circuit 22 of the recording/reproducing apparatus has a plurality of master keys and an apparatus-unique storage key. The DES encrypting

20 circuit 22 also has a random number generating circuit.

The DES encrypting circuit 22 can share an authenticating process and a session key with the memory card 40 that has the DES encrypting circuit. In addition, the DES encrypting circuit 22 can re-encrypt data with the storage key of the DES encrypting circuit.

25 The encrypted audio data that is output from the DES encrypting circuit 22 is supplied to a DSP (Digital Signal Processor) 30. The DSP 30 communicates with the memory card 40 through an interface. In this example, the memory card 40 is attached to an attaching/detaching mechanism (not shown) of the recording/reproducing apparatus. The DSP 30 writes the

5 encrypted data to the flash memory of the memory card 40. The encrypted data is serially transmitted between the DSP 30 and the memory card 40. In addition, an external SRAM (Static Random Access Memory) 31 is connected to the DSP 30. The SRAM 31 provides the recording/reproducing apparatus with a sufficient storage capacity so as to control the memory card 40.

10 A bus interface 32 is connected to the DSP 30. Data is supplied from an external controller (not shown) to the DSP 30 through a bus 33. The external controller controls all operations of the audio system. The external controller supplies data such as a record command or a reproduction command that is generated corresponding to a user's operation through an operation portion to the DSP 30 through the bus interface 32. In addition, the external controller supplies additional information such as image information and character information to the DSP 30 through the bus interface 32. The bus 33 is a bidirectional communication path. Additional information that is read from the memory card 40 is supplied to the external controller through the DSP 30, the bus interface 32, and the bus 33. In reality, the external controller is disposed in for example an amplifying unit of the audio system. In addition, the external controller causes a display portion to display additional information, the operation state of the

recorder, and so forth. The display portion is shared by the audio system. Since data that is exchanged through the bus 33 is not copyright protected data, it is not encrypted.

5 The encrypted audio data that is read from the memory card 40 by the DSP 30 is decrypted by the security IC 20. The audio encoder/decoder IC 10 decodes the encoded data corresponding to the ATRAC3 format. Output data of the audio encoder/decoder 10 is supplied to a D/A converter 18. The D/A converter 18 converts the output data of the audio encoder/decoder 10 into an analog signal. The analog audio signal is supplied to a line output terminal 19.

10 The analog audio signal is supplied to an amplifying unit (not shown) through the line output terminal 19. The analog audio signal is reproduced from a speaker or a head set. The external controller supplies a muting signal to the D/A converter 18. When the muting signal represents a mute-on state, the external controller prohibits the audio signal from being output from the line output terminal 19.

15 Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing the internal structure of the DSP 30. Referring to Fig. 2, the DSP 30 comprises a core 34, a flash memory 35, an SRAM 36, a bus interface 37, a memory card interface 38, and inter-bus bridges. The DSP 30 has the same function as a microcomputer. The core 34 is equivalent

to a CPU. The flash memory 35 stores a program that causes the DSP 30 to perform predetermined processes. The SRAM 36 and the external SRAM 31 are used as a RAM of the recording/reproducing apparatus.

5       The DSP 30 controls a writing process for writing encrypted audio data and additional information to the memory card 40 corresponding to an operation signal such as a record command received through the bus interfaces 32 and 37 and a reading process for reading them therefrom. In other words, the DSP 30 is disposed between the application software side of the 10      audio system that records/reproduces audio data and additional information and the memory card 40. The DSP 30 is operated when the memory card 40 is accessed. In addition, the DSP 30 is operated corresponding to software such as a file system.

15      The DSP 30 manages files stored in the memory card 40 with the FAT system used in conventional personal computers. In addition to the file system, according to the embodiment of the present invention, a management file is used. The management file will be described later. The management file is used to manage data files stored in the memory card 40. The management file as the first file management information is used to manage audio data files. On the other hand, the FAT as the second file management information is used to manage all files including audio 20      25

5 data files and management files stored in the flash memory of the memory card 40. The management file is stored in the memory card 40. The FAT is written to the flash memory along with the route directory and so forth before the memory card 40 is shipped. The details of the FAT will be described later.

10 According to the embodiment of the present invention, to protect the copyright of data, audio data that has been compressed corresponding to the ATRAC3 format is encrypted. On the other hand, since it is not necessary to protect the copyright of the management file, it is not encrypted. There are two types of memory cards that are an encryption type and a non-encryption type. However, a memory card for use with the recorder/player that records copyright protected data is limited to the encryption type.

15 Voice data and image data that are recorded by users are recorded on non-encryption type memory cards.

20 Fig. 3 is a block diagram showing the internal structure of the memory card 40. The memory card 40 comprises a control block 41 and a flash memory 42 that are structured as a one-chip IC. A bidirectional serial interface is disposed between the 25 DSP 30 of the recorder/player and the memory card 40. The bidirectional serial interface is composed of ten lines that are a clock line SCK for transmitting a

clock signal that is transmitted along with data, a status line SBS for transmitting a signal that represents a status, a data line DIO for transmitting data, an interrupt line INT, two GND lines, two INT lines, and two reserved lines.

5        The clock line SCK is used for transmitting a clock signal in synchronization with data. The status line SBS is used for transmitting a signal that represents the status of the memory card 40. The data line DIO is used for inputting and outputting a command and encrypted audio data. The interrupt line INT is used for transmitting an interrupt signal that causes the memory card 40 to interrupt the DSP 30 of the recorder/player. When the memory card 40 is attached to the recorder/player, the memory card 40 generates the interrupt signal. However, according to the embodiment of the present invention, since the interrupt signal is transmitted through the data line DIO, the interrupt line INT is grounded.

20       A serial/parallel converting, parallel/serial converting, and interface block (S/P, P/S, I/F block) 43 is an interface disposed between the DSP 30 of the recorder/player and the control block 41 of the memory card 40. The S/P, P/S, and IF block 43 converts serial data received from the DSP 30 of the recorder/player into parallel data and supplies the parallel data to the control block 41. In addition, the S/P, P/S, and

IF block 43 converts parallel data received from the control block 41 into serial data and supplies the serial data to the DSP 30. When the S/P, P/S, and IF block 43 receives a command and data through the data line DIO, the S/P, P/S, and IF block 43 separates them into those that are normally accessed to the flash memory 42 and those that are encrypted.

In the format of which data is transmitted through the data line DIO, after a command is transmitted, data is transmitted. The S/P, P/S, and IF block 43 detects the code of a command and determines whether the command and data are those that are normally accessed or those that are encoded.

Corresponding to the determined result, the S/P, P/S, and IF block 43 stores a command that is normally accessed to a command register 44 and stores data that is normally accessed to a page buffer 45 and a write register 46. In association with the write register 46, the memory card 40 has an error correction code encoding circuit 47. The error correction code encoding circuit 47 generates a redundant code that is an error correction code for data temporarily stored in the page buffer 45.

Output data of the command register 44, the page buffer 45, the write register 46, and the error correction code encoding circuit 47 is supplied to a flash memory interface and sequencer (hereinafter,

referred to as memory I/F and sequencer) 51. The memory IF and sequencer 51 is an interface disposed between the control block 41 and the flash memory 42 and controls data exchanged therebetween. Data is written to the flash memory through the memory IF and sequencer 51.

sequencer 51.

Audio data that has been compressed corresponding to the ATRAC3 format and written to the flash memory (hereinafter, this audio data is referred to as ATRAC3 data) is encrypted by the security IC 20 of the recorder/player and the security block 52 of the memory card 40 so as to protect the copyright of the ATRAC3 data. The security block 52 comprises a buffer memory 53, a DES encrypting circuit 54, and a nonvolatile memory 55.

security block 52 of the memory card 40 and a unique

memory 53, a  
nonvolatile memory 55.

The security block 52 of the memory card 40 has a plurality of authentication keys and a unique storage key for each memory card. The nonvolatile memory 55 stores a key necessary for encrypting data. The key stored in the nonvolatile memory 55 cannot be analyzed. According to the embodiment, for example, a storage key is stored in the nonvolatile memory 55. The security block 52 also has a random number generating circuit. The security block 52 authenticates an applicable recorder/player and shares a session key therewith. In addition, the security block 52 re-encrypts contents with the storage key

through the DSE encrypting circuit 54.

For example, when the memory card 40 is attached to the recorder/player, they are mutually authenticated. The security IC 20 of the recorder/player and the security block 52 of the memory

5 card 40 mutually authenticate. When the

recorder/player has authenticated the attached memory card 40 as an applicable memory card and the memory

card 40 has authenticated the recorder/player as an

applicable recorder/player, they are mutually

10 authenticated. After the mutual authenticating process has been successfully performed, the recorder/player

and the memory card 40 generate respective session keys

and share them with each other. Whenever the

recorder/player and the memory card 40 authenticate

each other, they generate respective session keys.

When contents are written to the memory card

40, the recorder/player encrypts a contents key with a

session key and supplies the encrypted data to the

memory card 40. The memory card 40 decrypts the

contents key with the session key, re-encrypts the

contents key with a storage key, and supplies the

contents key to the recorder/player. The storage key

is a unique key for each memory card 40. When the

recorder/player receives the encrypted contents key,

the recorder/player performs a formatting process for

the encrypted contents key, and writes the encrypted

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contents key and the encrypted contents to the memory card 40.

In the above section, the writing process for the memory card 40 was described. In the following, the reading process for the memory card 40 will be described. Data that is read from the flash memory 42 is supplied to the page buffer 45, the read register 48, and the error correction circuit 49 through the memory IF and the sequencer 51. The error correcting circuit 49 corrects an error of the data stored in the page buffer 45. Output data of the page buffer 45 that has been error-corrected and the output data of the read register 48 are supplied to the S/P, P/S, and IF block 43. The output data of the S/P, P/S, and IF block 43 is supplied to the DSP 30 of the recorder/player through the above-described serial interface.

When data is read from the memory card 40, the contents key encrypted with the storage key and the contents encrypted with the block key are read from the flash memory 42. The security block 52 decrypts the contents key with the storage key. The security block 52 re-encrypts the decrypted content key with the session key and transmits the re-encrypted contents key to the recorder/player. The recorder/player decrypts the contents key with the received session key and generates a block key with the decrypted contents key.

The recorder/player successively decrypts the encrypted ATRAC3 data.

A config. ROM 50 is a memory that stores partition information, various types of attribute information, and so forth of the memory card 40. The memory card 40 also has an erase protection switch 60. When the switch 60 is in the erase protection position, even if a command that causes the memory card 40 to erase data stored in the flash memory 42 is supplied from the recorder/player side to the memory card 40, the memory card 40 is prohibited from erasing the data stored in the flash memory 42. An OSC cont. 61 is an oscillator that generates a clock signal that is the reference of the timing of the process of the memory card 40.

Fig. 4 is a schematic diagram showing the hierarchy of the processes of the file system of the computer system that uses a memory card as a storage medium. On the hierarchy, the top hierarchical level is an application process layer. The application process layer is followed by a file management process layer, a logical address management layer, a physical address management layer, and a flash memory access layer. In the above-mentioned hierarchical structure, the file management process layer is the FAT file system. Physical addresses are assigned to individual blocks of the flash memory. The relation between the

blocks of the flash memory and the physical addresses thereof does not vary. Logical addresses are addresses that are logically handled on the file management process layer.

Fig. 5 is a schematic diagram showing the physical structure of data handled in the flash memory 42 of the memory card 40. In the memory 42, a data unit (referred to as segment) is divided into a predetermined number of blocks (fixed length). One block is divided into a predetermined number of pages (fixed length). In the flash memory, data is erased as each block at a time. Data is written to the flash memory 42 or read therefrom as a page at a time. The size of each block is the same. Likewise, the size of each page is the same. One block is composed of page 0 to page m. For example, one block has a storage capacity of for example 8 KB (kilobytes) or 16 KB. One page has a storage capacity of 512 B (bytes). When one block has a storage capacity of 8 KB, the total storage capacity of the flash memory 42 is 4 MB (512 blocks) or 8 MB (1024 blocks). When one block has a storage capacity of 16 KB, the total storage capacity of the flash memory 42 is 16 MB (1024 blocks), 32 MB (2048 blocks), or 64 MB (4096 blocks).

One page is composed of a data portion of 512 bytes and a redundant portion of 16 bytes. The first three bytes of the redundant portion is an overwrite

portion that is rewritten whenever data is updated. The first three bytes successively contain a block status area, a page status area, and an update status area. The remaining 13 bytes of the redundant portion are fixed data that depends on the contents of the data portion. The 13 bytes contain a management flag area (1 byte), a logical address area (2 bytes), a format reserve area (5 bytes), a dispersion information ECC area (2 bytes), and a data ECC area (3 bytes). The dispersion information ECC area contains redundant data for an error correction process against the management flag area, the logical address area, and the format reserve area. The data ECC area contains redundant data for an error correction process against 512-byte data.

The management flag area contains a system flag (1: user block, 0: boot block), a conversion table flag (1: invalid, 0: table block), a copy prohibition flag (1: OK, 0: NG), and an access permission flag (1: free, 0: read protect).

The first two blocks - blocks 0 and 1 are boot blocks. The block 1 is a backup of the block 0. The boot blocks are top blocks that are valid in the memory card. When the memory card is attached to the recorder/player, the boot blocks are accessed at first. The remaining blocks are user blocks. Page 0 of the boot block contains a header area, a system entry area,

and a boot and attribute information area. Page 1 of  
the boot block contains a prohibited block data area.  
Page 2 of the boot block contains a CIS (Card  
Information Structure)/IDI (identify Drive Information)  
area.

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The header area of the boot block contains a boot block ID and the number of effective entries. The system entries are the start position of prohibited block data, the data size thereof, the data type thereof, the data start position of the CIS/IDI area, the data size thereof, and the data type thereof. The boot and attribute information contains the memory card type (read only type, rewritable type, or hybrid type), the block size, the number of blocks, the number of total blocks, the security/non-security type, the card fabrication data (date of fabrication), and so forth.

Since the flash memory has a restriction for the number of rewrite times due to the deterioration of the insulation film, it is necessary to prevent the same storage area (block) from being concentratedly accessed. Thus, when data at a particular logical address stored at a particular physical address is rewritten, updated data of a particular block is written to a non-used block rather than the original block. Thus, after data is updated, the relation between the logical address and the physical address changes. This process is referred to as swap process.

Consequently, the same block is prevented from being concentratedly accessed. Thus, the service life of the flash memory can be prolonged.

The logical address associates with data written to the block. Even if the block of the original data is different from the block of updated data, the address on the FAT does not change. Thus, the same data can be properly accessed. However, since the swap process is performed, a conversion table that correlates logical addresses and physical addresses is required (this table is referred to as logical-physical address conversion table). With reference to the logical-physical address conversion table, a physical address corresponding to a logical address designated on the FAT is obtained. Thus, a block designated with a physical address can be accessed.

The DSP 30 stores the logical-physical address conversion table in the SRAM. When the storage capacity of the RAM is small, the logical-physical address conversion table can be stored to the flash memory. The logical-physical address conversion table correlates logical addresses (2 bytes) sorted in the ascending order with physical addresses (2 bytes). Since the maximum storage capacity of the flash memory is 128 MB (8192 blocks), 8192 addresses can be assigned with two bytes. The logical-physical address conversion table is managed for each segment. Thus,

the size of the logical-physical address conversion  
table is proportional to the storage capacity of the  
flash memory. When the storage capacity of the flash  
memory is 8 MB (two segments), two pages are used as  
5 the logical-physical address conversion table for each  
of the segments. When the conversion table is stored  
in the flash memory, a predetermined one bit of the  
management flag area in the redundant portion in each  
page represents whether or not the current block is a  
10 block containing the logical-physical address  
conversion table.

The above-described memory card can be used  
with the FAT file system of a personal computer system  
as with the disc shaped record medium. The flash  
memory has an IPL area, a FAT area, and a route  
directory area (not shown in Fig. 5). The IPL area  
contains the address of a program to be initially  
loaded to the memory of the recorder/player. In  
addition, the IPL area contains various types of memory  
information. The FAT area contains information with  
20 respect to blocks (clusters). The FAT has defined  
unused blocks, next block number, defective blocks, and  
last block number. The route directory area contains  
directory entries that are a file attribute, an update  
date [day, month, year], file size, and so forth.  
25

Next, with reference to Fig. 6, a managing  
method using the FAT table will be described.

5

Fig. 6 is a schematic diagram showing a memory map. The top area of the memory map is a partition table portion. The partition table portion is followed by a block area, a boot sector, a FAT area, a FAT backup area, a root directory area, a sub directory area, and a data area. On the memory map, logical addresses have been converted into physical addresses corresponding to the logical-physical address conversion table.

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The boot sector, the FAT area, the FAT backup area, the root directory area, the sub directory area, and the data area are referred to as FAT partition area.

0900000000000000  
15  
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The partition table portion contains the start address and the end address of the FAT partition area.

20

The FAT used for a conventional floppy disk does not have such a partition table. Since the first track has only a partition table, there is a blank area. The boot sector contains the size of the FAT structure (12 bit FAT or 16 bit FAT), the cluster size, and the size of each area. The FAT is used to manage the position of a file recorded in the data area. The FAT copy area is a FAT backup area. The route directory area contains file names, start cluster addresses thereof, and various attributes thereof. The route directory area uses 32 bytes per file.

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SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
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The sub directory area is achieved by a directory attribute file as a directory. In the embodiment shown in Fig. 6, the sub directory area has four files named PBLIST.MSF, CAT.MSF, DOG.MSF, and MAN.MFA. The sub directory area is used to manage file names and record positions on the FAT. In other words, the slot of the file name CAT.MSF is assigned address "10" on the FAT. The slot of the file name DOG.MSF is assigned address "10" on the FAT. An area after cluster 2 is used as a data area. In this embodiment, audio data that has been compressed corresponding to the ATRAC3 format is recorded. The top slot of the file name MAN.MSA is assigned address "110" on the FAT. According to the embodiment of the present invention, audio data with the file name CAT.MSF is recorded to cluster 5 to 8. Audio data of DOG-1 as the first half of the file with the file name DOG.MSF is recorded to clusters 10 to 12. Audio data DOG-2 as the second half of the file with the file name DOG.MSF is recorded in clusters 100 and 101. Audio data with the file name MAN.MSF is recorded in clusters 110 and 111.

In the embodiment of the present invention, an example of which a single file is divided into two portions and dispersedly recorded is described. In the embodiment, an area "Empty" in the data area is a recordable area. An area after cluster 200 is used for managing file names. The file CAT.MSF is recorded to

cluster 200. The file DOG.MSF is recorded to cluster 201. The file MAN.MSF is recorded to cluster 202. When the positions of the files are changed, the area after cluster 200 is re-arranged. When the memory card  
5 is attached, the beginning and the end of the FAT partition area are recorded with reference to the top partition table portion. After the boot sector portion is reproduced, the root directory area and the sub directory area are reproduced. The slot of the reproduction management information PBLIST.MSF in the sub directory area is detected. Thus, the address of the end portion of the slot of the file PBLIST.MSF is obtained. In the embodiment, since address "200" is recorded at the end of the file PBLIST.MSF, cluster 200  
10 is referenced.

15

The area after cluster 200 is used for managing the reproduction order of files. In the embodiment, the file CAT.MSA is the first program. The file DOG.MSA is the second program. The file MAN.MSA is the third program. After the area after cluster 200 is referenced, slots of the files CAT.MSA, DOG.MSA, and MAN.MSA are referenced. In Fig. 6, the end of the slot of the file CAT.MSA is assigned address "5". The end of the slot of the file DOG.MSA is assigned address  
20 "10". The end of the slot of the file MAN.MSA is assigned address "110". When an entry address is  
25 searched on the FAT with address "5", cluster address

"6" is obtained. When an entry address is searched on the FAT with address "6", cluster address "7" is obtained. When an entry address is searched on the FAT with address "8", code "FFF" that represents the end is obtained. Thus, the file CAT.MSA uses clusters 5, 6, 7, and 8. With reference to clusters 5, 6, 7, and 8 in the data area, an area of ATRAC3 data with the file name CAT.MSA can be accessed.

Next, a method for searching the file DOG.MSF that has been dispersedly recorded will be described.

The end of the slot of the file DOG.MSA is assigned address "10". When an entry address on the FAT is searched with address "10", cluster address "11" is obtained. When an entry address on the FAT is searched with address "11" is referenced, cluster address "12" is obtained. When an entry address on the FAT is searched with address "12" is referenced, cluster address "101" is obtained. When entry address "101" is referenced, code "FFF" that represents the end is obtained. Thus, the file DOG.MSF uses clusters 10, 11, 12, 100, and 101. When clusters 10, 11, and 12 are referenced, the first part of ATRAC3 data of the file DOG.MSF can be accessed. When the clusters 100 and 101 are referenced, the second part of ATRAC3 data of the file DOG.MSF can be accessed. In addition, when an entry address is searched on the FAT with address "110", cluster address "101" is obtained. When an

entry address "111" is searched on the FAT with address "101", code "FFF" that represents the end is obtained. Thus, it is clear that the file MAN.MSA uses clusters 110 and 111. As described above, data files dispersed in the flash memory can be linked and sequentially reproduced.

According to the embodiment of the present invention, in addition to the file management system defined in the format of the memory card 40, the management file is used for managing tracks and parts of music files. The management file is recorded to a user block of the flash memory 42 of the memory card 40. Thus, as will be described later, even if the FAT of the memory card 40 is destroyed, a file can be recovered.

The management file is generated by the DSP 30. When the power of the recorder/player is turned on, the DSP 30 determines whether or not the memory card 40 has been attached to the recorder/player. When the memory card has been attached, the DSP 30 authenticates the memory card 40. When the DSP 30 has successfully authenticated the memory card 40, the DSP 30 reads the boot block of the flash memory 42. Thus, the DSP 30 reads the physical-logical address conversion table and stores the read data to the SRAM. The FAT and the route directory have been written to the flash memory of the memory card 40 before the

memory card 40 is shipped. When data is recorded to the memory card 40, the management file is generated.

In other words, a record command issued by

the remote controller of the user or the like is supplied to the DSP 30 from the external controller through the bus and the bus interface 32. The encoder/decoder IC 10 compresses the received audio data and supplies the resultant ATRAC3 data to the security IC 20. The security IC 20 encrypts the ATRAC3 data. The encrypted ATRAC3 data is recorded to the flash memory 42 of the memory card 40. Thereafter, the FAT and the management file are updated. Whenever a file is updated (in reality, whenever the recording process of audio data is completed), the FAT and the management file stored in the SRAMs 31 and 36 are rewritten. When the memory card 40 is detached or the power of the recorder/player is turned off, the FAT and the management file that are finally supplied from the SRAMs 31 and 36 are recorded to the flash memory 42. Alternatively, whenever the recording process of audio data is completed, the FAT and the management file written in the flash memory 42 may be rewritten. When audio data is edited, the contents of the management file are updated.

In the data structure according to the embodiment, additional information is contained in the management file. The additional information is updated

and recorded to the flash memory 42. In another data structure of the management file, an additional information management file is generated besides the track management file. The additional information is supplied from the external controller to the DSP 30 through the bus and the bus interface 32. The additional information is recorded to the flash memory 42 of the memory card 40. Since the additional information is not supplied to the security IC 20, it is not encrypted. When the memory card 40 is detached from the recorder/player or the power thereof is turned off, the additional information is written from the SRAM of the DSP 30 to the flash memory 42.

Fig. 7 is a schematic diagram showing the file structure of the memory card 40. As the file structure, there are a still picture directory, a moving picture directory, a voice directory, a control directory, and a music (HIFI) directory. According to the embodiment, music programs are recorded and reproduced. Next, the music directory will be described. The music directory has two types of files. The first type is a reproduction management file BLIST.MSF (hereinafter, referred to as PBLIST). The other type is an ATRAC3 data file A3Dnnnn.MSA that stores encrypted music data. The music directory can stores up to 400 ATRAC3 data files (namely, 400 music programs). ATRAC3 data files are registered to the

reproduction management file and generated by the recorder/player.

Fig. 8 is a schematic diagram showing the structure of the reproduction management file. Fig. 9  
5 is a schematic diagram showing the file structure of one ATRAC3 data file. The reproduction management file is a fixed-length file of 16 KB. An ATRAC3 data file is composed of an attribute header and an encrypted music data area for each music program. The attribute data has a fixed length of 16 KB. The structure of the attribute header is similar to that of the reproduction  
10 management file.

The reproduction management file shown in Fig. 8 is composed of a header, a memory card name NM-  
15 1S (for one byte code), a memory card name NM2-S (for two byte code), a program reproduction sequence table TRKTBL, and memory card additional information INF-S. The attribute header (shown in Fig. 9) at the beginning  
20 of the data file is composed of a header, a program name NM1 (for one byte code), a program name NM2 (for two byte code), track information TRKINF (such as track key information), part information PRTINF, and track additional information INF. The header contains  
25 information of the number of total parts, the attribute of the name, the size of the additional information, and so forth.

The attribute data is followed by ATRAC3

music data. The music data is block-segmented every 16 KB. Each block starts with a header. The header contains an initial value for decrypting encrypted data. Only music data of an ATRAC3 data file is encrypted. Thus, other data such as the reproduction management file, the header, and so forth are not encrypted.

Next, with reference to Figs. 10A to 10C, the relation between music programs and ATRAC3 data files will be described. One track is equivalent to one music program. In addition, one music program is composed of one ATRAC3 data (see Fig. 9). The ATRAC3 data file is audio data that has been compressed corresponding to the ATRAC3 format. The ATRAC3 data file is recorded as a cluster at a time to the memory card 40. One cluster has a capacity of 16 KB. A plurality of files are not contained in one cluster. The minimum data erase unit of the flash memory 42 is one block. In the case of the memory card 40 for music data, a block is a synonym of a cluster. In addition, one cluster is equivalent to one sector.

One music program is basically composed of one part. However, when a music program is edited, one music program may be composed of a plurality of parts. A part is a unit of data that is successively recorded. Normally, one track is composed of one part. The connection of parts of a music program is managed with

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音楽データ  
構造  
説明

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part information PRTINF in the attribute header of each music program. In other words, the part size is represented with part size PRTSIZE (4 bytes) of the part information PRTINF. The first two bytes of the part size PRTSIZE represents the number of total clusters of the current part. The next two bytes represent the positions of the start sound unit (SU) and the end sound unit (SU) of the beginning and last clusters, respectively. Hereinafter, a sound unit is abbreviated as SU. With such a part notation, when music data is edited, the movement of the music data can be suppressed. When music data is edited for each block, although the movement thereof can be suppressed, the edit unit of a block is much larger than the edit unit of a SU.

SU is the minimum unit of a part. In addition, SU is the minimum data unit in the case that audio data is compressed corresponding to the ATRAC3 format. 1 SU is audio data of which data of 1024 samples at 44.1 kHz ( $1024 \times 16 \text{ bits} \times 2 \text{ channels}$ ) is compressed to data that is around 10 times smaller than that of original data. The duration of 1 SU is around 23 msec. Normally, one part is composed of several thousand SU. When one cluster is composed of 42 SU, one cluster allows a sound of one second to be generated. The number of parts composing one track depends on the size of the additional information.

Since the number of parts is obtained by subtracting  
the header, the program name, the additional data, and  
so forth from one block, when there is no additional  
information, the maximum number of parts (645 parts)  
can be used.

Fig. 10A is a schematic diagram showing the  
file structure in the case that two music programs of a  
CD or the like are successively recorded. The first  
program (file 1) is composed of for example five  
clusters. Since one cluster cannot contain two files  
of the first program and the second program, the file 2  
starts from the beginning of the next cluster. Thus,  
the end of the part 1 corresponding to the file 1 is in  
the middle of one cluster and the remaining area of the  
cluster contains no data. Likewise, the second music  
program (file 2) is composed of one part. In the case  
of the file 1, the part size is 5. The first cluster  
starts at 0-th SU. The last cluster ends at 4-th SU.

There are four types of edit processes that  
are a divide process, a combine process, an erase  
process, and a move process. The divide process is  
performed to divide one track into two portions. When  
the divide process is performed, the number of total  
tracks increases by one. In the divide process, one  
file is divided into two files on the file system.  
Thus, in this case, the reproduction management file  
and the FAT are updated. The combine process is

performed to combine two tracks into one track. When the combine process is performed, the number of total tracks decreases by one. In the combine process, two files are combined into one file on the file system.

5 Thus, when the combine process is performed, the reproduction management file and the FAT are updated. The erase process is performed to erase a track. The track numbers after the track that has been erased decrease one by one. The move process is performed to change the track sequence. Thus, when the erase

10 process or the move process is performed, the reproduction management file and the FAT are updated.

15 Fig. 10B is a schematic diagram showing the combined result of two programs (file 1 and file 2) shown in Fig. 10A. As a result of the combine process, the combined file is composed of two parts. Fig. 10C is a schematic diagram showing the divided result of which one program (file 1) is divided in the middle of the cluster 2. By the divide process, the file 1 is

20 composed of clusters 0, 1, and the beginning portion of cluster 2. The file 2 is composed of the end portion of cluster 2 and clusters 3 and 4.

25 As described above, according to the embodiment of the present invention, since the part notation is defined, as the combined result (see Fig. 10B), the start position of the part 1, the end position of the part 1, and the end portion of the part

2 can be defined with SU. Thus, to pack the space due to the combined result, it is not necessary to move the music data of the part 2. In addition, as the divided result (see Fig. 10C), it is not necessary to move data and pack the space at the beginning of the file 2.

Fig. 11 is a schematic diagram showing the detailed data structure of the reproduction management file PBLIST. Figs. 12A and 12B show a header portion and the remaining portion of the reproduction management file PBLIST. The size of the reproduction management file is one cluster (one block = 16 KB). The size of the header shown in Fig. 12A is 32 bytes. The rest of the reproduction management file PBLIST shown in Fig. 12B contains a name NM1-S area (256 bytes) (for the memory card), a name NM2-S area (512 bytes), a contents key area, a MAC area, an S-YMDhms area, a reproduction sequence management table TRKTBL area (800 bytes), a memory card additional information INF-S area (14720 bytes), and a header information redundant area. The start positions of these areas are defined in the reproduction management file.

The first 32 bytes of (0x0000) to (0x0010) shown in Fig. 12A are used for the header. In the file, 16-byte areas are referred to as slots.

Referring to Fig. 12A, the header are placed in the first and second slots. The header contains the following areas. An area denoted by "Reserved" is an

5 undefined area. Normally, in a reserved area, a null  
(0x00) is written. However, even if any data is  
written to a reserved area, the data written in the  
reserved is ignored. In a future version, some  
reserved areas may be used. In addition, data is  
prohibited from being written to a reserved area. When  
an option area is not used, it is treated as a reserved  
area.

= BLKID-TL0 (4 bytes)

10 Meaning: BLOCKID FILE ID

Function: Identifies the top of the  
reproduction management file.

Value: Fixed value = "TL = 0" (for example,  
0x544C2D30)

= MCode (2 bytes)

15 Meaning: MAKER CODE

Function: Identifies the maker and model of  
the recorder/player

Value: High-order 10 bits (Maker code); low-  
order 6 bits (model code).

20 = REVISION (4 bytes)

Meaning: Number of rewrite times of PBLIST

Function: Increments whenever the

reproduction management file is rewritten.

25 Value: Starts at 0 and increments by 1.

= S-YMDhms (4 bytes) (Option)

Meaning: Year, month, day, hour, minute, and

second recorded by the recorder/player with a reliable  
clock.

Function: Identifies the last recorded date  
and time.

5 Value: bits 25 to 31: Year 0 to 99 (1980 to  
2079)

bits 21 to 24: Month 0 to 12

bits 16 to 20: Day 0 to 31

bits 11 to 15: Hour 0 to 23

bits 05 to 10: Minute 0 to 59

10 bits 00 to 04: Second 0 to 29 (two bit  
interval)

= SY1C+L (2 bytes)

Meaning: Attribute of name (one byte code)  
of memory card written in NM1-S area.

15 Function: Represents the character code and  
the language code as one byte code.

Value: Character code (C): High-order one  
byte

20 00: Non-character code, binary number

01: ASCII (American Standard Code for  
Information Interchange)

02: ASCII+KANA

03: Modified 8859-1

25 81: MS-JIS

82: KS C 5601-1989

83: GB (Great Britain) 2312-80

90: S-JIS (Japanese Industrial  
Standards) (for Voice)  
Language code (L): Low-order one  
byte

5 Identifies the language based on EBU  
Tech 3258

standard.

00: Not set

08: German

10 09: English

0A: Spanish

0F: French

15: Italian

1D: Dutch

65: Korean

69: Japanese

75: Chinese

When data is not recorded, this area is  
all 0.

20 = SN2C+L (2 bytes)

Meaning: Attribute of name of memory card in  
NM2-S area.

Function: Represents the character code and  
the language coded as one byte code.

25 Value: Same as SN1C+L

= SINFSIZE (2 bytes)

Meaning: Total size of additional

information of memory card in INF-S area.

Function: Represents the data size as an increment of 16 bytes. When data is not recorded, this area is all 0.

5           Value: Size: 0x0001 to 0x39C (924)  
              = T-TRK (2 bytes)

Meaning: TOTAL TRACK NUMBER

Function: Represents the number of total tracks.

10          Value: 1 to 0x0190 (Max. 400 tracks)

When data is recorded, this area is all 0.

= VerNo (2 bytes)

Meaning: Format version number

15          Function: Represents the major version number (high order one byte) and the minor version number (low order one byte).

Value: 0x0100 (Ver 1.0)

0x0203 (Ver 2.3)

20          Next, areas (see Fig. 13B) that preceded by the header will be described.

= NM1-S

Meaning: Name of memory card (as one byte code)

25          Function: Represents the name of the memory card as one byte code (max. 256). At the end of this area, an end code (0x00) is written. The size is

calculated from the end code. When data is not recorded, null (0x00) is recorded from the beginning (0x0020) of this area for at least one byte.

Value: Various character code

5 = NM2-S

Meaning: Name of memory card (as two byte code)

Function: Represents the name of the memory card as two byte code (max. 512). At the end of this 10 area, an end code (0x00) is written. The size is calculated from the end code. When data is not recorded, null (0x00) is recorded from the beginning (0x0120) of this area for at least two bytes.

Value: Various character code

15 = CONTENTS KEY

Meaning: Value for music program. Protected with MG(M) and stored. Same as CONTENTS KEY.

Function: Used as a key necessary for calculating MAC of S-YMDhms.

20 Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFF

= MAC

Meaning: Forged copyright information check value

Function: Represents the value generated 25 with S-YMDhms and CONTENTS KEY.

Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFF

= TRK-nnn

Meaning: SQN (sequence) number of ATRAC3  
data file reproduced.

Function: Represents FNo of TRKINF.

Value: 1 to 400 (0x190)

5 When there is no track, this area is all  
0.

= INF-S

Meaning: Additional information of memory  
card (for example, information with respect to photos,  
songs, guides, etc.)

10 Function: Represents variable length  
additional information with a header. A plurality of  
types of additional information may be used. Each of  
the types of additional information has an ID and a  
data size. Each additional information area including  
a header is composed of at least 16 bytes and a  
multiple of 4 bytes. For details, see the following  
section.

20 Value: Refer to the section of "Data  
Structure of Additional Information".

= S-YMDhms (4 bytes) (Option)

Meaning: Year, month, day, hour, minute, and  
second recorded by the recorder/player with a reliable  
clock.

25 Function: Identifies the last recorded date  
and time. In this case of EMD, this area is mandatory.

Value: bits 25 to 31: Year 0 to 99 (1980 to

20791

bits 21 to 24: Month 0 to 12

bits 16 to 24: Day 0 to 31

bits 11 to 15: Hour 0 to 23

bits 05 to 10: Minute 0 to 59

bits 00 to 04: Second 0 to 29 (two second interval)

As the last slot of the reproduction

management file, the same BLKID-TL0, MCode, and

REVISION as those in the header are written.

10

card, it may be mistakenly or accidentally detached or the power of the recorder/player may be turned off. When such an improper operation is performed, a defect should be detected. As described above, the REVISION area is placed at the beginning and end of each block. Whenever data is rewritten, the value of the REVISION area is incremented. If a defect termination takes place in the middle of a block, the value of the REVISION area at the beginning of the block does not match the value of the REVISION area at the end of the block. Thus, such a defect termination can be detected. Since there are two REVISION areas, the abnormal termination can be detected with a high probability. When an abnormal termination is detected, an alarm such as an error message is generated.

In addition, since the fixed value BLKID-TL0

is written at the beginning of one block (16 KB), when the FAT is destroyed, the fixed value is used as a reference for recovering data. In other words, with reference to the fixed value, the type of the file can be determined. Since the fixed value BLKID-TL0 is redundantly written at the header and the end portion of each block, the reliability can be secured.

Alternatively, the same reproduction management file can be redundantly recorded.

The data amount of an ATRAC3 data file is much larger than that of the track information management file. In addition, as will be described later, a block number BLOCK SERIAL is added to ATRAC3 data file. However, since a plurality of ATRAC3 files are recorded to the memory card, to prevent them from become redundant, both CONNUM0 and BLOCK SERIAL are used. Otherwise, when the FAT is destroyed, it will be difficult to recover the file. In other words, one ATRAC3 data file may be composed of a plurality of blocks that are dispersed. To identify blocks of the same file, CONNUM0 is used. In addition, to identify the order of blocks in the ATRAC3 data file, BLOCK SERIAL is used.

Likewise, the maker code (Mcode) is redundantly recorded at the beginning and the end of each block so as to identify the maker and the model in such a case that a file has been improperly recorded in

the state that the FAT has not been destroyed.

Fig. 12C is a schematic diagram showing the structure of the additional information data. The additional information is composed of the following header and variable length data. The header has the following areas.

= INF

Meaning: FIELD ID

Function: Represents the beginning of the additional information (fixed value).

Value: 0x69

= ID

Meaning: Additional information key code

Function: Represents the category of the additional information.

Value: 0 to 0xFF

= SIZE

Meaning: Size of individual additional information

Function: Represents the size of each type of additional information. Although the data size is not limited, it should be at least 16 bytes and a multiple of 4 bytes. The rest of the data should be filled with null (0x00).

Value: 16 to 14784 (0x39C0)

= MCode

Meaning: MAKER CODE

Function: Identifies the maker and model of the recorder/player.

Value: High-order 10 bits (maker code), low-order 10 bits (machine code).

5 = C+L

Meaning: Attribute of characters in data area starting from byte 12.

Function: Represents the character code and the language code as one byte code.

10 Value: Same as SNC+L

= DATA

Meaning: Individual additional information

Function: Represents each type of additional information with variable length data. Real data always starts from byte 12. The length (size) of the real data should be at least 4 bytes and a multiple of 4 bytes. The rest of the data area should be filled with null (0x00).

20 Value: Individually defined corresponding to

the contents of each type of additional information.

Fig. 13 is a table that correlates key code values (0 to 63 of additional information and types thereof. Key code values (0 to 31) are assigned to music character information. Key code values (32 to 25 63) are assigned to URLs (Uniform Resource Locator) (web information). The music character information and URL information contain character information of the

album title, the artist name, the CM, and so forth as additional information.

Fig. 14 is a table that correlates key code values (64 to 127) of additional information and types thereof. Key code values (64 to 95) are assigned to paths/others. Key code values (96 to 127) are assigned to control/numeric data. For example, ID = 98 represents TOC-ID as additional information. TOC-ID represents the first music program number, the last music program number, the current program number, the total performance duration, and the current music program duration corresponding to the TOC information of a CD (Compact Disc).

Fig. 15 is a table that correlates key code values (128 to 159) of additional information and types thereof. Key code values (128 to 159) are assigned to synchronous reproduction information. In Fig. 15, EMD stands for electronic music distribution.

Next, with reference to Figs. 16A to 16E, real examples of additional information will be described. As with Fig. 12C, Fig. 16A shows the data structure of the additional information. In Fig. 16B, key code ID = 3 (artist name as additional information). SIZE = 0x1C (28 bytes) representing that the data length of additional information including the header is 28 bytes; C+L representing that character code C = 0x01 (ASCII) and language code L = 0x09

(English). Variable length data after byte 12  
represents one byte data "SIMON & GRAFUNKEL" as artist  
name. Since the data length of the additional  
information should be a multiple of 4 bytes, the rest  
5 is filled with (0x00).

15

In Fig. 16C, key code ID = 97 representing  
that ISRC (International Standard Recording Code:  
Copyright code) as additional information. SIZE = 0x14  
(20 bytes) representing that the data length of the  
10 additional information is 20 bytes. C = 0x00 and L =  
0x00 representing that characters and language have not  
been set. Thus, the data is binary code. The variable  
length data is eight-byte ISRC code representing  
copyright information (nation, copyright owner,  
recorded year, and serial number).

20

In Fig. 16D, key code ID = 97 representing  
recorded date and time as additional information. SIZE  
= 0 x 10 (16 bytes) representing that the data length  
of the additional information is 16 bytes. C = 0x00  
and L = representing that characters and language have  
not been set. The variable length data is four-byte  
25 code (32 bit) representing the recorded date and time  
(year, month, day, hour, minute, second).

25

In Fig. 16E, key code ID = 107 representing a  
reproduction log as additional information. SIZE =  
0x10 (16 bytes) representing that the data length of  
the additional information is 16 bytes. C = 0x00 and L

= 0x00 representing that characters and language have not been set. The variable length data is a four-byte code representing a reproduction log (year, month, day, hour, minute, second). When the recorder/player has a reproduction log function, it records data of 16 bytes whenever it reproduces music data.

Fig. 17 is a schematic diagram showing a data arrangement of ATRAC3 data file A3Dnnnn in the case that 1 SU is N bytes (for example, N = 384 bytes).

Fig. 17 shows an attribute header (1 block) of a data file and a music data file (1 block). Fig. 17 shows the first byte (0x0000 to 0x7FF0) of each slot of the two blocks ( $16 \times 2 = 32$  kbytes). As shown in Fig. 18, the first 32 bytes of the attribute header are used as a header; 256 bytes are used as a music program area NM1 (256 bytes); and 512 bytes are used as a music program title area NM2 (512 bytes). The header of the attribute header contains the following areas.

= BLKID-HD0 (4 bytes)

Meaning: BLOCKID FIELD ID

Function: Identifies the top of an ATRA3 data file.

Value: Fixed value = "HD = 0" (For example, 0x48442D30)

= MCode (2 bytes)

Meaning: MAKER CODE

Function: Identifies the maker and model of

the recorder/player

Value: High-order 10 bits (maker code); low-order 6 bits (machine code)

= BLOCK SERIAL (4 bytes)

5 Meaning: Track serial number

Function: Starts from 0 and increments by

1. Even if a music program is edited, this value does not vary.

Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFF.

10 = N1C+L (2 bytes)

Meaning: Represents the attribute of data (NM1) of a track (music program title).

Function: Represent the character code and language code of NM1 as one byte code.

15 Value: Same as SN1C+L

= N2C+L (2 bytes)

Meaning: Represents the attribute of data (NM2) of a track (music program title).

Function: Represent the character code and language code of NM1 as one byte code.

20 Value: Same as SN1C+L

= INFSIZE (2 bytes)

Meaning: Total size of additional information of current track.

25 Function: Represents the data size as a multiple of 16 bytes. When data is not recorded, this area should be all 0.

5

Value: 0x0000 to 0x3C6 (966)  
= T-PRT (2 bytes)

Meaning: Number of total bytes  
Function: Represents the number of parts  
that composes the current track. Normally, the value  
of T-PRT is 1.

10 Value: 1 to 285 (645 dec).  
= T-SU (4 bytes)

Meaning: Number of total SU.  
Function: Represents the total number of SU  
in one track that is equivalent to the program  
performance duration.

15 Value: 0x01 to 0x001FFFFF  
= INX (2 bytes) (Option)

Meaning: Relative position of INDEX  
Function: Used as a pointer that represents  
the top of a representative portion of a music program.  
The value of INX is designated with a value of which  
the number of SU is divided by 4 as the current  
position of the program. This value of INX is  
equivalent to 4 times larger than the number of SU  
(around 93 msec).

20 Value: 0 to 0xFFFF (max, around 6084 sec)  
= XT (2 bytes) (Option)

25 Meaning: Reproduction duration of INDEX  
Function: Designates the reproduction  
duration designated by INX-nnn with a value of which

the number of SU is divided by 4. The value of INDEX is equivalent to four times larger than the normal SU (around 93 msec).

Value: 0x0000 (no setting); 0x01 to 0xFFFF

5 (up to 6084 sec); 0xFFFF (up to end of music program)

Next, the music program title areas NM1 and NM2 will be described.

= NM1

Means: Character string of music program

10 title

Function: Represents a music program title as one byte code (up to 256 characters) (variable length). The title area should be completed with an end code (0x00). The size should be calculated from the end code. When data is not recorded, null (0x00) should be recorded from the beginning (0x0020) of the area for at least one byte.

Value: Various character codes

= NM2

20 Means: Character string of music program

title

Function: Represents a music program title as two byte code (up to 512 characters) (variable length). The title area should be completed with an end code (0x00). The size should be calculated from the end code. When data is not recorded, null (0x100) should be recorded from the beginning (0x0120) of the

25

area for at least two bytes.

Value: Various character codes

Data of 80 bytes starting from the fixed position (0x320) of the attribute header is referred to as track information area TRKINF. This area is mainly used to totally manage the security information and copy control information. Fig. 19 shows a part of TRKINF. The area TRKINF contains the following areas.

= CONTENTS KEY (8 bytes)

Meaning: Value for each music program. The value of CONTENTS KEY is protected in the security block of the memory card and then stored.

Function: Used as a key for reproducing a music program. It is used to calculate the value of MAC.

Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFF

= MAC (8 bytes)

Meaning: Forged copyright information check value Function: Represents the value generated with a plurality of values of TRKINF including contents cumulation numbers and a secret sequence number.

The secret sequence number is a sequence number recorded in the secret area of the memory card. A non-copyright protection type recorder cannot read data from the secret area of the memory card. On the other hand, a copyright protection type recorder and a computer that operates with a program that can read

data from a memory card can access the secret area.

= A (1 byte)

Meaning: Attribute of part.

Function: Represents the information of such  
5 as compression mode of a part.

Value: The details will be described in the  
following (see Figs. 19 and 20).

Next, the value of the area A will be  
described. In the following description, monaural mode  
10 (N = 0 or 1) is defined as a special joint mode of  
which bit 7 = 1, sub signal = 0, main signal = (L+R).  
A non-copyright protection type player may ignore  
information of bits 2 and 1.

Bit 0 of the area A represents information of  
emphasis on/off state. Bit 1 of the area A represents  
information of reproduction skip or normal  
reproduction. Bit 2 of the area A represents  
information of data type such as audio data, FAX data,  
or the like. Bit 3 of the area A is undefined. By a  
20 combination of bits 4, 5, and 6, mode information of  
ATRAC3 is defined as shown in Fig. 20. In other words,  
N is a mode value of 3 bits. For five types of modes  
that are monaural (N = 0 or 1), LP (N = 2), SP (N = 4),  
EX (N = 5), and HQ (N = 7), record duration (64 MB  
25 memory card only), data transmission rate, and the  
number of SU per block are listed. The number of bytes  
of 1 SU depends on each mode. The number of bytes of 1

SU in the monaural mode is 136 bytes. The number of bytes of 1 SU in the LP mode is 192 bytes. The number of bytes of 1 SU in the SP mode is 304 bytes. The number of bytes of 1 SU in the EX mode is 384 bytes.

5 The number of bytes of 1 SU in the HQ mode is 512 bytes. Bit 7 of the area A represents ATRAC3 modes (0: Dual, 1: JOint).

For example, an example of which a 64 MB memory card is used in the SP mode will be described.

10 A 64-MB memory card has 3968 blocks. In the SP mode, since 1 SU is 304 bytes, one block has 53 SU. 1 SU is equivalent to  $(1024/44100)$  seconds. Thus, one block is  $(1024/44100) \times 53 \times (3968 - 10) = 4863$  seconds = 81 minutes. The transmission rate is  $(44100/1024) \times 304 \times 8 = 104737$  bps.

= LT (one byte)

Meaning: Reproduction restriction flag (bits 7 and 6) and security partition (bits 5 to 0).

Function: Represents a restriction of the current track.

20 Value: bit 7: 0 = no restriction, 1 = restriction

bit 6: 0 = not expired, 1 = expired

bits 5 to 0: security partition

25 (reproduction prohibited other than 0)

= FNo (2 bytes)

Meaning: File number.  
Function: Represents the initially recorded track number that designates the position of the MAC calculation value recorded in the secret area of the memory card.

Value: 1 to 0x190 (400)  
= MG(D) SERIAL-nnn (16 bytes)

Meaning: Represents the serial number of the security block (security IC 20) of the recorder/player.

Function: Unique value for each recorder/player

Value: 0 to  
0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF  
= CONNUM (4 bytes)

Meaning: Contents cumulation number

Function: Represents a unique value cumulated for each music program. The value is managed by the security block of the recorder/player. The upper limit of the value is  $2^{32}$  that is 4,200,000,000.

Used to identify a recorded program.

Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFF  
YMDhms-S (4 bytes) (Option)

Meaning: Reproduction start date and time of track with reproduction restriction

Function: Represents the date and time at which data reproduction is permitted with EMD.

Value: Same as the notation of date and time

of other areas  
= YMDhms-E (4 bytes) (Option)  
Meaning: Reproduction end date and time of track with reproduction restriction

5 Function: Represents the date and time at which data reproduction is expired with EMD.  
Value: Same as the notation of date and time of other areas  
= MT (1 byte) (Option)

10 Meaning: Maximum value of number of permitted reproduction times  
Function: Represents the maximum number of reproduction times designated by EMD.  
Value: 1 to 0xFF. When not used, the value of the area MT is 00.

15 = CT (1 byte) (Option)  
Meaning: Number of reproduction times  
Function: Represents the number of reproduction times in the number of permitted reproduction times. Whenever data is reproduced, the value of the area CT is decremented.

20 Value: 0x00 to 0xFF. When not used, the value of the area CT is 0x00. When bit 7 of the area LT is 1 and the value of the area CT is 00, data is prohibited from being reproduced.

25 = CC (1 byte)  
Meaning: COPY CONTROL

Function: Controls the copy operation.  
Value: bits 6 and 7 represent copy control  
information. bits 4 and 5 represent copy control  
information of a high speed digital copy operation.  
5 bits 2 and 3 represent a security block authentication  
level. bits 0 and 1 are undefined.

Example of CC:

(bits 7 and 6)

11: Unlimited copy operation permitted

10 01: copy prohibited

00: one time copy operation permitted

(bits 3 and 2)

00: analog/digital input recording

MG authentication level is 0.

15 When digital record operation using data from  
a CD is performed, (bits 7 and 6): 00 and (bits 3 and  
2): 00.

= CN (1 byte) (Option)

20 Meaning: Number of permitted copy times in  
high speed serial copy management system

Function: Extends the copy permission with  
the number of copy times, not limited to one time copy  
permission and copy free permission. Valid only in  
first copy generation. The value of the area CN is  
25 decremented whenever the copy operation is performed.

Value"

00: Copy prohibited

01 to 0xFE: Number of times

0xFF: Unlimited copy times

The track information area TRKINF is followed by a 24-byte part management information area (PRTINF) starting from 0x0370. When one track is composed of a plurality of parts, the values of areas PRTINF of the individual parts are successively arranged on the time axis. Fig. 22 shows a part of the area PRTINF. Next, areas in the area PRTINF will be described in the order of the arrangement.

= PRTSIZE (4 bytes)

Meaning: Part size

Function: Represents the size of a part.

Cluster: 2 bytes (highest position), start SU: 1 byte (upper), end SU: 1 byte (lowest position).

Value: cluster: 1 to 0x1F40 (8000)

start SU: 0 to 0xA0 (160)

end SU: 0 to 0xA0 (16) (Note that SU starts from 0.)

= PRTKEY (8 bytes)

Meaning: Part encrypting value

Function: Encrypts a part. Initial value = 0. Note that edit rules should be applied.

Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFF

= CONNUM0 (4 bytes)

Meaning: Initially generated contents cumulation number key

Function: Uniquely designates an ID of  
contents.

Value: Same value as the value of the  
contents cumulation number initial value key

5 As shown in Fig. 17, the attribute header of  
an ATRAC3 data file contains additional information  
INF. The additional information is the same as the  
additional information INF-S (see Figs. 11 and 12B) of  
the reproduction management file except that the start  
10 position is not fixed. The last byte position (a  
multiple of four bytes) at the end of one or a  
plurality of parts is followed by data of the  
additional information INF.

= INF

15 Meaning: Additional information with respect  
to track

Function: Represents variable length  
additional information with a header. A plurality of  
different types of additional information may be  
20 arranged. Each of additional information areas has an  
ID and a data size. Each additional information area  
is composed of at least 16 bytes and a multiple of 4  
bytes.

25 Value: Same as additional information INF-S  
of reproduction management file

The above-described attribute header is  
followed by data of each block of an ATRAC3 data file.

As shown in Fig. 23, a header is added for each block.

Next, data of each block will be described.

= BLKID-A3D (4 bytes)

Meaning: BLOCKID FILE ID

5 Function: Identifies the top of ATRAC3 data.

Value: Fixed value = "A3D" (for example,

0x41334420)

= MCode (2 bytes)

Meaning: MAKER CODE

10 Function: Identifies the maker and model of  
the recorder/player

Value: High-order 10 bits (maker code); low-  
order 6 bits (model code)

= CONNUMO (4 bytes)

15 Meaning: Cumulated number of initially  
created contents

Function: Designates a unique ID for  
contents. Even if the contents are edited, the value  
of the area CONNUMO is not changed.

20 Value: Same as the contents cumulation  
number initial key

= BLOCK SERIAL (4 bytes)

Meaning: Serial number assigned to each  
track

25 Function: Starts from 0 and increments by 1.  
Even if the contents are edited, the value of the area  
BLOCK SERIAL is not changed.

Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFF  
= BLOCK-SEED (8 bytes)  
Meaning: Key for encrypting one block  
Function: The beginning of the block is a  
5 random number generated by the security block of the  
recorder/player. The random number is followed by a  
value incremented by 1. When the value of the area  
BLOCK-SEED is lost, since sound is not generated for  
around one second equivalent to one block, the same  
10 data is written to the header and the end of the block.  
Even if the contents are edited, the value of the area  
BLOCK-SEED is not changed.

Value: Initially 8-bit random number  
= INITIALIZATION VECTOR (8 bytes)  
Meaning: Value necessary for  
15 encrypting/decrypting ATRAC3 data  
Function: Represents an initial value  
necessary for encrypting and decrypting ATRAC3 data for  
each block. A block starts from 0. The next block  
20 starts from the last encrypted 8-bit value at the last  
SU. When a block is divided, the last eight bytes just  
before the start SU is used. Even if the contents are  
edited, the value of the area INITIALIZATION VECTOR is  
not changed.

25 Value: 0 to 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF  
= SU-nnn  
Meaning: Data of sound unit

5

Function: Represents data compressed from 1024 samples. The number of bytes of output data depends on the compression mode. Even if the contents are edited, the value of the area SU-nnn is not changed. For example, in the SP mode, N = 384 bytes.

Value: Data value of ATRAC3

10

In Fig. 17, since N = 384, 42 SU are written to one block. The first two slots (4 bytes) of one block are used as a header. In the last slot (two bytes), the areas BLKID-A3D, MCode, CONNUM0, and BLOCK SERIAL are redundantly written. Thus, M bytes of the remaining area of one block is  $(16,384 - 384 \times 42 - 16 \times 3 = 208)$  bytes. As described above, the eight-byte area BLOCK SEED is redundantly recorded.

15

20

25

When the FAT area is destroyed, all blocks of the flash memory are searched. It is determined whether the value of the area ID BLKID at the beginning of each block is TL0, HD0, or A3D. As shown in Figs. 24A to 24C, at step SP1, it is determined whether or not the value of the area ID BLKID at the beginning of the top block is BLKID-TL0. When the determined result at step SP1 is No, the flow advances to step SP2. At step SP2, the block number is incremented. Thereafter, at step SP3, it is determined whether or not the last block has been searched.

When the determined result at step SP3 is No, the flow returns to step SP1.

When the determined result at step SP1 is Yes, the flow advances to step SP4. At step SP4, it is determined that the searched block is the reproduction management file PBLIST. Thereafter, the flow advances to step SP5. At step SP5, the number of total tracks T-TRK in the reproduction management file PBLIST is stored as N to the register. For example, when the memory has stored 10 ATRAC3 data files (10 music programs), 10 has been stored in T-TRK.

Next, with reference to the value of the number of total tracks T-TRK, TRK-001 to TRK-400 of blocks are successively referenced. In this example, since 10 music programs have been recorded, TRK-001 to TRK-010 of blocks are referenced. Since a file number FNO has been recorded in TRK-XXX (where X = 1 to 400) at step SP7, a table that correlates the track number TRK-XXX and the file number FNO is stored to the memory. Next, at step SP8, N stored in the register is decremented. A loop of steps SP6, SP7, and SP8 is repeated until N becomes 0 at step SP9.

When the determined result at step SP9 is Yes, the flow advances to step SP10. At step SP10, the pointer is reset to the top block. The searching process is repeated from the top block. Thereafter, the flow advances to step SP11. At step SP11, it is determined whether or not the value of the area ID BLKID of the top block is BLKID-HD0. When the

determined result at step SP11 is No, the flow advances to step SP12. At step SP12, the block number is incremented. At step SP13, it is determined whether or not the last block has been searched.

5 When the determined result at step SP13 is No, the flow returns to step SP11. The searching process is repeated until the determined result at step SP11 becomes Yes.

10 When the determined result at step SP11 is Yes, the flow advances to step SP14. At step SP14, it is determined that the block is the attribute header (see Fig. 8) (0x0000 to 0x03FFF shown in Fig. 18) at the beginning of the ATRAC3 data file.

15 Next, at step SP15, with reference to the file number FNO, the sequence number BLOCK SERIAL of the same ATRAC data file, and the contents cumulation number key CONNUM0 contained in the attribute header, they are stored to the memory. When 10 ATRAC3 data files have been recorded, since there are 10 blocks of which the value of the area ID BLKID of the top block is BLKID-TL0, the searching process is continued until 20 10 blocks are searched.

25 When the determined result at step SP13 is Yes, the flow advances to step SP16. At step SP16, the pointer is reset to the top block. The searching process is repeated from the top block.

Thereafter, the flow advances to step SP17.

At step SP17, it is determined whether or not the value of the area ID BLKID of the top block is BLKID-A3D.

When the determined result at step SP17 is No, the flow advances to step SP18. At step SP18, the block number is incremented. Thereafter, at step SP18', it is determined whether or not the last block has been searched. When the determined result at step SP18' is No, the flow returns to step SP17.

When the determined result at step SP17 is Yes, the flow advances to step SP19. At step SP19, it is determined that the block contains ATRAC3 data. Thereafter, the flow advances to step SP20. At step SP20, with reference to the serial number BLOCK SERIAL recorded in the ATRAC3 data block and the contents cumulation number key CONNUM0, they are stored to the memory.

In the same ATRAC3 data file, the common number is assigned as the contents cumulation number key CONNUM0. In other words, when one ATRAC3 data file is composed of 10 blocks, a common number is assigned to all the values of the areas CONNUM0.

In addition, when one ATRAC3 data is composed of 10 blocks, serial numbers 1 to 0 are assigned to the values of the areas BLOCK SERIALS of the 10 blocks.

Corresponding to the values of the areas CONNUM0 and BLOCK SERIAL, it is determined whether the current block composes the same contents and the

reproduction order of the current block in the same contents (namely, the connection sequence).

When 10 ATRAC3 data files (namely, 10 music programs) have been recorded and each of the ATRAC3 data files is composed of 10 blocks, there are 100 data blocks.

With reference to the values of the areas CONNUM0 and BLOCK SERIAL, the reproduction order of music programs of 100 data blocks and the connection order thereof can be obtained.

When the determined result at step SP19 is Yes, all the blocks have been searched for the reproduction management file, the ATRAC3 data file, and the attribute file. Thus, at step SP21, based on the values of the areas CONNUM0, BLOCK SERIAL, FNO, and TRK-X in the order of block numbers of the blocks stored in the memory, the file connection state is obtained.

After the connection state is obtained, the FAT may be generated in a free area of the memory.

Next, a management file according to a second embodiment of the present invention will be described. Fig. 25 shows the file structure according to the second embodiment of the present invention. Referring to Fig. 25, a music directory contains a track information management file TRKLIST.MSF (hereinafter, referred to as TRKLIST), a backup track information

management file TRKLISTB.MSF (hereinafter, referred to  
as TRKLISTB), an additional information file  
INFLIST.MSF (that contains an artist name, an ISRC  
code, a time stamp, a still picture data, and so forth  
5 (this file is referred to as INFIST)), an ATRAC3 data  
file A3Dnnnn.MSF (hereinafter, referred to as A3nnnn).  
The file TRKLIST contains two areas NAME1 and NAME2.  
The area NAME1 is an area that contains the memory card  
name and the program name (for one byte code  
10 corresponding to ASCII/8859-1 character code). The  
area NAME2 is an area that contains the memory card  
name and the program name (for two byte code  
corresponding to MS-JIS/Hankul/Chinese code).

Fig. 26 shows the relation between the track  
information management file TRKLIST, the areas NAME1  
and NAME2, and the ATRAC3 data file A3Dnnnn. The file  
TRKLIST is a fixed-length file of 64 kbytes (= 16 k x  
4). An area of 32 kbytes of the file is used for  
managing tracks. The remaining area of 32 kbytes is  
20 used to contain the areas NAME1 and NAME2. Although  
the areas NAME1 and NAME2 for program names may be  
provided as a different file as the track information  
management file, in a system having a small storage  
capacity, it is convenient to totally manage the track  
25 information management file and program name files.

The track information area TRKINF-nnnn and  
part information area PRTINF-nnnn of the track

information management file TRKLIST are used to manage the data file A3Dnnnn and the additional information INFLIST. Only the ATRAC3 data file A3Dnnnn is encrypted. In Fig. 26, the data length in the horizontal direction is 16 bytes (0 to F). A 5 hexadecimal number in the vertical direction represents the value at the beginning of the current line.

According to the second embodiment, three files that are the track management file TRKLIST (including a program title file), the additional information management file INFLIST, and the data file A3Dnnnn are used. According to the first embodiment (see Figs. 7, 8, and 9), two files that are the reproduction management file PBLIST for managing all the memory card and the data file ATRAC3 for storing programs are used.

Next, the data structure according to the second embodiment will be described. For simplicity, in the data structure according to the second

embodiment, the description of similar portions to those of the first embodiment is omitted.

Fig. 27 shows the detailed structure of the track information management file TRKLIST. In the track information management file TRKLIST, one cluster (block) is composed of 16 kbytes. The size and data of the file TRKLISTB are the same as those of the backup file TRKLISTB. The first 32 bytes of the track

information management file are used as a header. As with the header of the reproduction management file PBLIST, the header of the file TRKLIST contains a BLKID-TL0/TL1 (backup file ID) area (4 bytes), an area T-TRK (2 bytes) for the number of total tracks, a maker code area MCode (2 bytes), an area REVISION (4 bytes) for the number of TRKLIST rewrite times, and an area S-YMDhms (4 bytes) (option) for update date and time data. The meanings and functions of these data areas are the same as those of the first embodiment. In addition, the file TRKLIST contains the following areas.

10 = YMDhms (4 bytes)

15 Represents the last update date (year, month, day) of the file TRKLIST.

20 = N1 (1 byte) (Option)

Represents the sequential number of the memory card (numerator side). When one memory card is used, the value of the area N1 is 0x01.

25 = N2 (1 byte) (Option)

Represents the sequential number of the memory card (denominator side). When one memory card is used, the value of the area N2 is 0x01.

= MSID (2 bytes) (Option)

25 Represents the ID of a memory card. When a plurality of memory cards is used, the value of the area MSID of each memory card is the same (T.B.D.).

(T.B.D. (to be defined) represents that this value may be defined in future).

= S-TRK (2 bytes).

Represents a special track (T.B.D.).

5 Normally, the value of the area S-TRK is 0x0000.

= PASS (2 bytes) (Option)

Represents a password (T.B.D.).

= APP (2 bytes) (Option)

10 Represents the definition of a reproduction application (T.B.D.) (normally, the value of the area APP is 0x0000).

= INF-S (2 bytes) (Option)

15 Represents the additional information pointer of the entire memory card. When there is no additional information, the value of the area INF-S is 0x00.

The last 16 bytes of the file TRKLIST are used for an area BLKID-TL0, an area MCode, and an area REVISION that are the same as those of the header. The backup file TRKLISTB contains the above-described header. In this case, the header contains an area BLKID-TL1, an area MCode, and an area REVISION.

20 The header is followed by a track information area TRKINF for information with respect to each track and a part information area PRTINF for information with respect to each part of tracks (music programs). Fig. 25 shows the areas preceded by the area TRKLIST. The lower portion of the area TRKLISTB shows the detailed

structure of these areas. In Fig. 27, a hatched area represents an unused area.

The track information area TRKINF-nnn and the part information area PRTINF-nnn contain areas of an ATRAC3 data file. In other words, the track information area TRKINF-nnn and the part information area PRTINF-nnn each contain a reproduction restriction flag area LT (1 byte), a contents key area CONTENTS KEY (8 bytes), a recorder/player security block serial number area MG(D) SERIAL (16 bytes), an area XT (2 bytes) (option) for representing a feature portion of a music program, an area INX (2 bytes) (option), an area YMDhms-S (4 bytes) (option), an area YMDhms-E (4 bytes) (option), an area MT (1 byte) (option), an area CT (1 byte) (option), an area CC (1 byte) (option), an area CN (1 byte) (option) (these areas YMDhms-S, YMDhms-E, MT, CT, CC, and CN are used for reproduction restriction information and copy control information), an area A (1 byte) for part attribute, a part size area PRTSIZE (4 bytes), a part key area PRTKEY (8 bytes), and a contents cumulation number area CONNUM (4 bytes). The meanings, functions, and values of these areas are the same as those of the first embodiment. In addition, the track information area TRKINF-nnn and the part information area PRTINF-nnn each contain the following areas.

= T0 (1 byte)

Fixed value (T0 = 0x74)  
= INF-nnn (Option) (2 bytes)  
Represents the additional information pointer  
(0 to 409) of each track. 00: music program without  
5 additional information.  
= FNM-nnn (4 bytes)  
Represents the file number (0x0000 to 0xFFFF)  
of an ATRK3 data file.  
The number nnnn (in ASCII) of the ATRAC3 data  
file name (A3Dnnnn) is converted into 0xnnnnnn.  
10  
= APP\_CTL (4 bytes) (Option)  
Represents an application parameter (T.B.D.)  
(Normally, the value of the area APP\_CTL is 0x0000).  
= P-nnn (2 bytes)  
Represents the number of parts (1 to 2039)  
that compose a music program. This area corresponds to  
the above-described area T-PART.  
= PR (1 byte)  
Fixed value (PR = 0 x 50).  
20  
Next, the areas NAME1 (for one byte code) and  
NAME2 (for two byte code) for managing names will be  
described. Fig. 28 shows the detailed structure of the  
area NAME1 (for one byte code area). Each of the areas  
NAME1 and NAME2 (that will be described later) is  
25 segmented with eight bytes. Thus, their one slot is  
composed of eight bytes. At 0x8000 that is the  
beginning of each of these areas, a header is placed.

The header is followed by a pointer and a name. The last slot of the area NAME1 contains the same areas as the header.

= BLKID-NM1 (4 bytes)

5 Represents the contents of a block (fixed  
value) (NM1 = 0x4E4D2D31).

= PNM1-nnn (4 bytes) (Option)

Represents the pointer to the area NM1 (for one byte code).

10 = PNM1-S

Represents the pointer to a name representing a memory card.

nnn (= 1 to 408) represents the pointer to a music program title.

The pointer represents the start position (2 bytes) of the block, the character code type (2 bits), and the data size (14 bits).

= NM1-nnn (Option)

20 Represents the memory card name and music program title for one byte code (variable length). An end code (0x00) is written at the end of the area.

Fig. 29 shows the detailed data structure of the area NAME2 (for two byte code). At 0x8000 that is the beginning of the area, a header is placed. The header is followed by a pointer and a name. The last slot of the area NAME2 contains the same areas as the header.

= BLKID-NM2 (4 bytes)

Represents the contents of a block (fixed value) (NM2 = 0x4E4D2D32).

= PNM2-nnn (4 bytes) (Option)

5 Represents the pointer to the area NM2 (for two byte code).

PNM2-S represents the pointer to the name representing the memory card. nnn (= 1 to 408) represents the pointer to a music program title.

10 The pointer represents the start position (2 bytes) of the block, the character code type (2 bits), and the data size (14 bits).

= NM2-nnn (Option)

15 Represents the memory card name and music program title for two byte code (variable). An end code (0x0000) is written at the end of the area.

20 Fig. 30 shows the data arrangement (for one block) of the ATRAC3 data file A3Dnnnn in the case that 1 SU is composed of N bytes. In this file, one slot is composed of eight bytes. Fig. 30 shows the values of the top portion (0x0000 to 0x3FF8) of each slot. The first four slots of the file are used for a header. As with the data block preceded by the attribute header of the data file (see Fig. 17) of the first example, a header is placed. The header contains an area BLKID-

25 A3D (4 bytes), a maker code area MCode (2 bytes), an area BLOCK SEED (8 bytes) necessary for encrypting

process, an area CONNUM0 (4 bytes) for the initial  
contents cumulation number, a serial number area BLOCK  
SERIAL (4 bytes) for each track, and an area  
INITIALIZATION VECTOR (8 bytes) necessary for  
5 encrypting/decrypting process. The second last slot of  
the block redundantly contains an area BLOCK SEED. The  
last slot contains areas BLKID-A3D and MCode. As with  
the first embodiment, the header is followed by the  
sound unit data SU-nnnn.

10 Fig. 31 shows the detailed data structure of  
the additional information management file INFLIST that  
contains additional information. In the second  
embodiment, at the beginning (0x0000) of the file  
INFLIST, the following header is placed. The header is  
followed by the following pointer and areas.  
15

= BLKID-INF (4 bytes)

Represents the contents of the block (fixed  
value) (INF = 0x494E464F).

= T-DAT (2 blocks)

20 Represents the number of total data areas (0  
to 409).

= MCode (2 bytes)

Represents the maker code of the  
recorder/player

25 = YMDhms (4 bytes)

Represents the record updated date and time.

= INF-nnnn (4 bytes)

Represents the pointer to the area DATA of the additional information (variable length, as 2 bytes (slot) at a time). The start position is represented with the high order 16 bits (0000 to FFFF).

5 = DataSlot-0000 (0x0800)

Represents the offset value from the beginning (as a slot at a time).

The data size is represented with low order 16 bits (0001 to 7FFF). A disable flag is set at the most significant bit. MSB = 0 (Enable), MSB = 1 (Disable)

The data size represents the total data amount of the music program.

(The data starts from the beginning of each slot. (The non-data area of the slot is filled with 00.)

The first INF represents a pointer to additional information of the entire album (normally, INF-409).

Fig. 32 shows the structure of additional information. An 8-byte header is placed at the beginning of one additional information data area. The structure of the additional information is the same as that of the first embodiment (see Fig. 12C). In other words, the additional information contains an area IN (2 bytes) as an ID, an area key code ID (1 byte), an area SIZE (2 bytes) that represents the size of each

additional information area, and a maker code area MCode (2 bytes). In addition, the additional information contains an area SID (1 byte) as a sub ID.

According to the second embodiment of the present invention, in addition to the file system defined as a format of the memory card, the track information management file TRKLIST or music data is used. Thus, even if the FAT is destroyed, the file can be recovered. Fig. 33 shows a flow of a file recovering process. To recover the file, a computer that operates with a file recovery program and that can access the memory card and a storing device (hard disk, RAM, or the like) connected to the computer are used. The computer has a function equivalent to the DSP30. Next, a file recovering process using the track management file TRKLIST will be described.

All blocks of the flash memory whose FAT has been destroyed are searched for TL-0 as the value (BLKID) at the top position of each block. In addition, all the blocks are searched for NM-1 as the value (BLKID) at the top position of each block. Thereafter, all the blocks are searched for NM-2 as the value (BLKID) at the top position of each block. All the contents of the four blocks (track information management file) are stored to for example a hard disk by the recovery computer.

The number of total tracks is obtained from

data after the fourth byte of the track information management file. The 20-th byte of the track information area TRKINF-001, the value of the area CONNUM-001 of the first music program, and the value of the next area P-001 are obtained. The number of parts is obtained with the value of the area P-001. The values of the areas PRTSIZE of all parts of the track 1 of the area PRTINF is obtained. The number of total blocks (clusters) n is calculated and obtained.

After the track information management file is obtained, the flow advances to step 102. At step 102, a voice data file (ATRAC3 data file) is searched. All blocks of other than the management file is searched from the flash memory. Blocks whose top value (BLKID) is A3D are collected.

A block of which the value of the area CONNUM0 at the 16-th byte of A3Dnnnn is the same as that of the area CONNUM-001 of the first music program of the track information management file and of which the value of the area BLOCK SERIAL that starts from 20-th byte is 0 is searched. After the first block is obtained, a block (cluster) with the same value of the area CONNUM value as the first block and of which the value of BLOCK SERIAL is incremented by 1 ( $1 = 0 + 1$ ) is searched. After the second block is obtained, a block with the same value of the area CONNUM0 as the second block and of which the value of the area BLOCK

SERIAL is incremented by 1 ( $2 = 1 + 1$ ) is searched.

By repeating the process, the ATRC3 data file is searched until n blocks (clusters) of the track 1 are obtained. When all the blocks (clusters) are obtained, they are successively stored to the hard disk.

The same process for the track 1 is performed for the track 2. In other words, a block of which the value of the area CONNUM0 is the same as that of the area CONNUM-002 of the first music program of the track information management file and of which the value of the area BLOCK SERIAL that starts at the 20-th byte is searched. Thereafter, in the same manner as the track 1, the ATRAC3 data file is searched until the last block (cluster) n' is detected. After all blocks (clusters) are obtained, they are successively stored to the hard disk.

By repeating the above-described process for all tracks (the number of tracks: m), all the ATRAC3 data is stored to the hard disk controlled by the recovering computer.

At step 103, the memory card whose the FAT has been destroyed is re-initialized and then the FAT is reconstructed. A predetermined directory is formed in the memory card. Thereafter, the track information management file and the ATRAC3 data file for m tracks are copied from the hard disk to the memory card.

Thus, the recovery process is finished.

In the management file and data file, important parameters (in particular, codes in headers) may be recorded triply rather than doubly. When data is redundantly recorded, the same data may be recorded at any positions as long as they are apart from each other for one page or more.

According to the present invention, the abnormality of a data file (ATRAC3 file) recorded in a memory card is detected. Next, with reference to Figs. 25 to 32, a circuit block that detects the abnormality of data will be described in detail.

As is clear from Fig. 20, the compression rate expected for conventional memory cards is around 1/8 to 1/43. In the case of 1024 samples/channel used for ATRAC3, the SU data amount (hereinafter referred to as SU value) as the data unit of the compressing process is in the range from 256 bytes to 48 bytes.

Each block contains 50 SU. According to the embodiment of the present invention, by detecting a particular fixed value of one byte that is set to SU at the beginning of one block of decrypted data, it can be determined whether or not the audio data has been correctly encrypted. For example, the determination can be performed at intervals of one second. When abnormally reproduced data is detected, it is quickly muted and/or a message that represents the abnormality

is displayed. In the recorder shown in Fig. 1, the D/A converter 18 performs the muting process so as to prevent abnormally reproduced output data from being generated. Alternatively, when abnormally reproduced output data is detected, the decompressing process may 5 be prohibited.

Next, with reference to a block diagram shown in Fig. 34, the embodiment of the present invention in the case that data is recorded will be described. As 10 shown in Fig. 1, the audio encoder/decoder IC 10 supplies audio data that has been compressed corresponding to ATRAC3 to the security IC 20. In Fig. 15 34, ATRAC3 compressed audio data is supplied from an audio encoder 71 to a shift register 74 of a detecting portion 73. The shift register 74 supplies the audio data to an encrypter 77. As an example, a serial signal shown in Fig. 35 is supplied from the audio encoder 71 to the shift register 74. The timing at which the compressed audio data is output from the 20 audio encoder 71 to the shift register 74 is controlled by a byte counter 72. In addition, the first read block is pre-set to the byte counter 72.

One block contains around 50 SU. When the first one byte of the first SU is stored to the shift 25 register 74, a match detecting circuit 75 determines whether or not the high order six bits of the first byte o the first SU of the block matches a fixed value

VF1 (namely, 101000). The match detecting circuit 75 outputs the determined result Sc1. In such a manner, the detecting portion 73 determines whether or not the fixed value VF1 has been set to the first byte of one SU of ATRAC3 data. The encrypter 77 encrypts the supplied audio data with a key 78. The data encrypted by the encrypter 77 is written to a memory card 40. In addition, the data encrypted by the encrypter 77 is supplied to a decrypter 81.

The decrypter 81 decrypts encrypted data with a key 82 that is the same as the key 78. Thus, the encrypted data is converted into a serial signal shown in Fig. 35. The serial signal that is output from the decrypter 81 is supplied to a shift register 85 of a detecting portion 84. The timing at which the serial data is output from the decrypter 81 to the shift register 85 is controlled by a byte counter 83. The first read block is pre-set to the byte counter 83. The first one byte of the first one of 50 SU contained in one block is stored to the shift register 85. A match detecting circuit 86 determines whether or not the high order six bits of the one byte matches a fixed value VF2 (namely, 101000). The match detecting circuit 86 outputs the determined result Sc2.

The determined result Sc1 that is output from the match detecting circuit 75 is ANDed with the determined result Sc2 that is output from the match

detecting circuit 86. In other words, when the high order six bits of one byte stored in the shift register 74 matches the fixed value VF1 and the high order six bits of one byte stored in the shift register 85

5 matches the fixed value VF2 as the determined results of the match detecting circuits 75 and 86, a status that represents that the header is OK is output.

Otherwise, the reproduced audio data is muted. When audio data is recorded, an alarm is issued.

10 Alternatively, the system is reset and then it is determined whether reproduced output data becomes normal.

Actually, it is difficult to set the fixed values VF1 and VF2 at intervals of for example 50 SU. Thus, the fixed values VF1 and VF2 are set to all SU. Only parts of 50 SU are extracted. When the fixed values VF1 and VF2 cannot be detected, an error flag is placed.

20 When the fixed values are set to all SU, abnormalities due to such as a different compression mode and a phase deviation of LR channels can be also detected. In reality, as shown in Fig. 21, according to the embodiment of the present invention, there are two compression modes that are Dual mode and Joint mode. In addition, there is monaural mode. Thus, there are a total of three recording methods.

25 One byte of the header is defined as follows.

101000 - 00: Dual (L)

101000 - 01: Dual (R)

101000 - 10: Joint

101000 - 11: Monaural

5                 The match detecting circuit 75 or 86

determines whether or not the high order six bits of one byte stored in the shift register 74 or 85 matches the fixed value VF1 or VF2. The low order two bits of one byte stored in the shift register 74 or 85 define recording methods. Thus, both the abnormality of audio data and the compression mode can be detected at the same time. In addition, since the compression mode is detected, a confusion of which different compression modes are combined can be prevented.

10                 Next, with reference to Fig. 36, a process for reproducing encrypted data recorded in a memory card 40 will be described. For simplicity, in Fig. 36, similar functional blocks to those shown in Fig. 34 are denoted by similar reference numerals and their description is omitted. Encrypted data that is read from the memory card 40 is supplied to a decrypting circuit 81. A detecting portion 84 detects abnormally reproduced output audio data. When the reproduced output data is abnormal as the detected result of the detecting portion 84, the abnormally reproduced output data is immediately muted. As described above, a muting signal is supplied to a D/A converter 18. Data that is

output from the shift register 85 is supplied to an audio decoder 88. The audio decoder 88 reproduces the supplied data.

As a real example of the encrypting process performed by the encrypter 77, CBC (Cipher Block Chaining) mode that is one of four modes defined for DES will be described. When the CBC mode is used, except for the first block of the track, eight bytes of the last SU of each preceding block is stored. After data is encoded, it is decoded so as to determine whether the fixed value at the beginning of the next block can be reproduced every second block (at intervals of around 1 second).

In the CBC mode, the first eight bytes P1 of the first SU of the first block of the track are exclusive-ORed with an initialization vector INV. The resultant data is encrypted with a key K. Thus, the following relation is satisfied.

$$\text{DES } (P1 \text{ (+)} \text{ INV}, K) = C1$$

where DES: symbol of encrypting process, Pi: plane data, Ci: encrypted data, K: key, and (+): symbol of exclusive-OR operation.

To encrypt other than the first block of the track, the immediately encrypted output data (encrypted data) C1 is required. The next eight bytes are encrypted as follows.

$$\text{DES } (P2 \text{ (+)} C1, K) = C2$$

DES is performed every eight bytes. Thus, to encrypt the first eight bytes (beginning data) of the block, the last eight bytes (preceding data) that have been encrypted of the preceding SU are required. Thus,  
5 the encrypter 77 requires a temporary storage memory that stores the beginning data and the preceding data.

The decrypter 81 decrypts the encrypted data. Thus, the following relation is satisfied.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{IDES } & (C_1, K) (+) \text{ INV} \\ 10 & = P_1 (+) \text{ INV } (+) \text{ INV } = P_1 \end{aligned}$$

where IDES: decrypting process

To decrypt other than the first block of the track, the preceding encrypted data  $C_1$  is required. Thus, the next eight bytes are decrypted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{IDES } & (C_2, K) (+) C_1 \\ 15 & = P_2 (+) C_1 (+) C_1 = P_2 \end{aligned}$$

As with the encrypting process, IDES is performed every eight bytes. Thus, to decrypt eight bytes at the beginning (beginning data) of encrypted data of a block, the last eight bytes (preceding data) of encrypted data of the preceding SU of the block is required. Thus, the decrypter 81 requires a temporary storage memory that stores the beginning data and the preceding data.

20  
25 In such a manner, when data is recorded, ATRAC3 data can be checked. When the decrypter has a temporary storage memory that temporarily stores the

beginning data and the preceding data of a block of encrypted data, the encrypted data can be also checked.

Fig. 37 is a block diagram showing the structure of a recording and reproducing apparatus according to the present invention. A digital audio signal is supplied from a CD or Internet to an input terminal 91. The digital audio signal is supplied to an ATRAC3 encoder 92. The ATRAC3 encoder 92 performs a highly efficient encoding process for the digital audio signal so as to compress it.

The digital audio signal compressed by the ATRAC3 encoder 92 is converted into blocks corresponding to the sound unit (SU).

The data length of the sound unit is variable in the range from 48 bytes to 256 bytes. This is because the ATRAC3 encoding method allows data to be compressed at a variable rate.

A fixed value generating device 93 outputs a fixed value VF1 at a predetermined timing. An adding device 95 adds the fixed value VF1 that is output from the fixed value generating device 93 to the block-segmented compressed digital audio signal that is output from the ATRAC3 encoder 92.

The timing at which the adding device 95 adds the fixed value VF1 to the compressed digital audio data is controlled by a timing controlling device 94.

The timing controlling device 94 may control

the timing so that the fixed value VF1 is added to the first one of 50 sound units as an encoding unit as will be described later.

In this case, the timing controlling device  
5 94 counts block information that is output from the ATRAC3 encoder 92 so as to control the fixed value generating device 93.

Alternatively, the timing controlling device  
94 may add the fixed value VF1 to all sound units that  
10 are output from the ATRAC3 encoder 92.

In this case, the fixed value is extracted at the timing of which encrypted data is decrypted (at intervals of 50 sound units). In this case, the fixed value added to the remaining sound units is discarded.

The compressed digital audio signal and the fixed value added by the adding device 95 are encrypted by an encrypter 96 with a key that is output from a key storing portion 97 corresponding to a predetermined encrypting process. According to the embodiment of the present invention, the encrypting process is performed corresponding to DES (Data Encryption Standard).

The compressed digital audio signal and the fixed value encrypted by the encrypter 96 are recorded as predetermined blocks to a non-volatile memory 98.

25 In the above-described example, the fixed value generating device 93 generates only one fixed value that is VF1. Alternatively, the fixed value

generating device 93 may generate a plurality of fixed values corresponding to the number of audio channels.

In addition, according to the present invention, as described above, since the variable rate compressing method is used, fixed values may be varied corresponding to compression rates.

When encrypted data is decrypted, a digital audio signal that has been encrypted and compressed is read from the non-volatile memory 98. The digital audio signal is decrypted by a decrypter 99 with a key that is output from a key storing portion 100.

The digital audio signal that has been decrypted by the decrypter 99 is output as blocks of ATRAC3 data.

The fixed value VF is added to the ATRAC3 data at predetermined intervals.

A subtracting device 102 separates the ATRAC3 data from the fixed value VF at the timing controlled by the timing controlling device 101. The block information that is output from the decrypter 99 is supplied to the timing controlling device 101. The timing controlling device 101 controls the timing at which the fixed value is extracted.

A comparing device 104 compares the fixed value VF extracted by the subtracting device 102 with the fixed value stored in the fixed value memory 103.

When they match, the comparing device 104

determines that the encrypter 96 and the decrypter 99 have normally performed the encrypting process and the decrypting process, respectively.

When the encrypting process and the  
5 decrypting process have been normally performed as the compared result of the comparing device 104, the compared result allows the ATRAC3 decoder 105 to decode the ATRAC3 data.

On the other hand, when the encrypting  
10 process and the decrypting process have been abnormally performed as the compared result of the comparing device 104, the compared result prohibits the ATRAC3 decoder 105 from decoding the ATRAC3 data.

Thus, depending on whether or not the  
15 encrypting process and the decrypting process have been normally performed, the decoding process for the compressed audio data is permitted or prohibited. When audio data is encoded, if fixed values corresponding to channels are added, the fixed values are pre-stored to the fixed value memory 103. When audio data is  
20 decoded, the comparing device 104 compares the fixed values stored in the fixed value memory 103 with the fixed value VF extracted by the subtracting device 104 so as to detect an audio channel. Corresponding to the  
25 detected audio channel, the decompressing process of the ATRAC3 decoder 105 is controlled.

In the case that fixed values corresponding

to compression rates are added, the fixed values are pre-stored in the fixed value memory 103. The comparing device 104 compares the fixed values stored in the fixed value storing memory 103 with the fixed value VF extracted by the subtracting device 102 so as to detect a compression rate. Corresponding to the detected compression rate, the decompressing process of the ATRAC3 decoder 105 is controlled.

According to the present invention, even if audio data has been encrypted, corresponding to the value of one byte of the first SU of each block, it can be determined whether or not the block is normal. Thus, abnormal reproduced data can be prevented from being output. When data that has been recorded is reproduced, if it becomes abnormal, it can be prevented from being reproduced. In addition, the compression mode can be detected. Thus, a confusion of which different compression modes are combined can be prevented.

20